Subcommittee on Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Po Leung Kuk

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 19 March 2014

There were concerns as to whether the Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Po Leung Kuk ("the Resolution") as presently drafted would allow Po Leung Kuk ("PLK") to expand its scope of services to establish private hospitals in future and provide medical and health services on a commercial basis. Noting PLK's explanation that it did not have any plan to expand into private hospital services in the short and medium term and the objective of PLK's plan was to provide medical and health services at low costs to the general public and for free to the under-privileged, some members were of the view that for the sake of clarity and to avoid departing from its objective, it would be desirable to state clearly PLK's fee charging policy for provision of medical and health services (i.e. to provide free or low cost services) in the Schedule to the Po Leung Kuk Ordinance (Cap. 1040) ("PLK Ordinance"). PLK and the Administration were requested to consider members' views and provide a written response. The Administration is also requested to advise in writing whether the expression of "medical and health care institutions in Hong Kong" in the amended paragraph 1(da) of the Schedule could cover private hospitals.

- 2. As regards the amended paragraphs 16 and 27 of the Schedule to the PLK Ordinance, some members considered that the amended provisions as presently drafted might create a misconception that PLK was allowed to manage and operate whatever kinds of institutions it liked. To enhance clarity and avoid any possible ambiguities in respect of the institutions that were under the control of PLK, these members suggested the Administration to consider proposing amendments to the Resolution to clearly define/specify in the Schedule PLK's scope of services, including what kinds of institutions and services it could operate and provide. The Administration was requested to review the drafting of the amended paragraphs 16 and 27(1) of the Schedule and provide a written response to members' view and suggestion.
- 3. Concern was also raised about the monitoring of PLK's compliance with existing statutory requirements in respect of its existing medical and health services provided to its service users as well as the proposed expanded scope of services to the general public. The Administration was requested to provide detailed information in this regard.

4. Regarding the proposed new paragraph 1(fa) of the Schedule, members noted that specific reference was made to include "dental services" in respect of the medical and health services to be provided by PLK. Some members wondered whether it would reduce the flexibility for PLK to introduce in future other forms of medical and health services not explicitly specified in the new paragraph 1(fa) of the Schedule. The Administration undertook to provide an explanation in writing on why specific reference of "dental services" was made.